CANADIAN Film Weekly
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Griesdorf Odeon General Mgr.

Resigns From IFD To Accept Lawson Appointment

General manager of Odeon Theatres of Canada, on August 1st, will be David H. Griesdorf, who has resigned as head of International Film Distributors to fill that post, which has been vacant since the resignation of Haskell Masters in 1945. No successor has been appointed by IFD as yet.

The appointment was made by Hon. J. Earl Lawson, KC, president and managing director of the J. Arthur Rank Organization of Canada, of which the 116-theatre Odeon circuit is a division.

Griesdorf knows considerable about the Odeon organization, for he was manager of its British Columbia district until his resignation in April, 1945. His former colleagues in Odeon organ-

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Movie Construct'n On Par With '47

Maintaining the rapid pace set in the last few weeks, theatre construction in the Dominion is creeping up on the records set in the peak year, 1947, and as of the present time has exceeded the like periods in 1948 and 1946. New listings included the opening of a

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82 Shorts From Warner Bros.

Warner Brothers will release 82 short subjects and 52 issues of Warner Pathe Canadian News during the 1949-50 season, it was announced by Haskell M. Masters, Canadian general manager, on his return from the company's international sales conven-

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UK Industry Mourns Ernest Fredman

Managing director and editor of the Daily Film Renter, British trade paper, Ernest Walter Fredman died in London at 65 after a brief illness. He was one of the best-known figures in the English-speaking part of the film world.

His Tattler's Gossip was an institution of the British industry and he enjoyed the personal friendship of its leaders.

Forty years ago he entered film trade journalism and in 1927 he converted the Film Renter from a weekly to a daily. Last year he sold the company to a new group but retained editorial control under a long-term contract.

Mr. Fredman, who was widely known as "Freddie," is survived by his widow and one son, Eric, who is connected with Imperiado Pictures, the Herbert Wilcox company.

Bernard Charman has succeeded the late Mr. Fredman as managing editor and business head of the Film Renter.

Bresler Contracted

Jerry Bresler has been signed to a producer contract by Columbia.

'Sins' Producers Win First Round

The motion of Maynard Film Distributing Company Limited for a stay in the action against it by Canadian Motion Picture Productions Limited was dismissed in Osgoode Hall, Toronto. This gives the latter the first round in its legal battle to reco-

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Every Film Has Its Own Patrons

"There is an audience for every picture that was ever made," MGM's Movie Memo stated recently in an article which developed and qualified that premise. Helen Aikenhead, reviewer of the London (Ontario) Free Press, devoted a full column to

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Manitoba Exhibitors Oppose DSTime

Mesho Triller of Winnipeg was re-elected president of the Manitoba Motion Picture Exhibitors' Association during the recent annual meeting in the Windsor Room of the Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg. Fifty-eight members were present, including 22 from rural Manitoba and A. E. McLean of Rainy River, Ontario, a community which is part of the Winnipeg distribution territory.

The annual report was given by B. K. Beach, secretary, and the president reported on the projectionists' examining board, Richard Miles on employers' col-

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RKO To Release

RKO will release Blind Spot, top budget suspense drama which will be produced by Jack H. Skirball and Bruce Manning.

UA Celebrates 30th With BO Boosters

Very few old-timers in the film business will quarrel with the statement that "The history of United Artists Corporation is, in effect, the history of modern-day motion pictures. With the formation of the company as an international distributing organization 30 years ago, the motion picture industry took a tremendous step forward and quietly officiated at the demise of the nickelodeon period." Even historians won't challenge that statement — even if United Artists did make it.

With all due respect to the contribution of United Artists to

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Theatre Transferred

G. Mallard has taken over V. J. Sherloski's 175-seat, two-day Kerby Theatre in Whitemouth, Manitoba.

CHARLIE REAGAN JOINS METRO

Charles M. Reagan, who resigned in February as vice-president in charge of distribution for Paramount Pictures, has joined the executive sales staff of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer, it was announced in New York by Nicholas M. Schenck, president, and William F. Rodgers, vice-president and general sales manager of Loew's, Inc., parent company. Reagan will assist Rodgers and others at the home office with the many problems caused by recent developments in the industry, it was said.

Reagan, who is a native of Lawrenceburg, Ind., and a graduate of Notre Dame, was with Paramount for 29 years, having started with the company as a salesman in Cincinnati in 1920. He was subsequently district sales manager, Western sales manager and assistant general sales manager, becoming top sales executive in 1944. It was understood at the time of his resignation that he would enter exhibition but this apparently fell through.

"SIGNS of the TIMES"
WALLACE PUBLICITY LIMITED
20 CARLTON STREET TORONTO

Extra Revenue to the Exhibitor

13 Editions of these highly interesting Magazine Films (450') are now being released to Circuit and Independent Theatres (one every four weeks). Between entertainment subjects three short advertising shots appear. "Signs of the Times" has strong audience appeal.

Para's New Comedy 'Sorrowful Jones,' Top Hope Hit

AGAIN Bob Hope and Paramount come through with a hit comedy that will gladden the hearts of exhibitors everywhere and lift their boxoffices right out of the summer doldrums. Teamed with Hope in his latest effort, titled Sorrowful Jones, is Lucille Ball and the film introduces a new child player, Mary Jane Saunders. A strong supporting cast headed by William Demarest, Bruce Cabot and Thomas Gomez play their roles capably and round out a topnotch cast.

Reviewers and critics are unanimous in their praise, claiming it to be Bob Hope's best and their contention is being borne out by record grosses in key runs.

Film is a remake of the Damon Runyon story that introduced Shirley Temple and was originally titled Little Miss Marker. It deals with the little girl who was left by her father with a bookmaker as security for a bet and the troubles she causes him when her father is murdered.

'SINS' PRODUCERS

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ver distribution rights to Sins of the Fathers, which it produced, from the Maynard exchange.

Maynard, represented by Kenneth Stratton, KC, of Lawson, Stratton, Green & Ongley, had asked for the stay as part of his position that the dispute ought to be referred to arbitration instead of being judged by the courts. Canadian Motion Picture Productions is being represented by W. J. P. Jenner, KC, of Jenner and Brunt.

A motion for an injunction to restrain Maynard from making any more commitments for exhibition of the film is still to be heard. The Canadian Film Weekly reported two weeks ago that this had been refused on being advised to that effect by Paul Maynard, who apparently felt that failure of the court to hear the motion was a favorable action. Readers got the impression that the motion for an injunction had been dismissed, which is wrong.

Sins of the Fathers, a sex hygiene film, was produced by Larry Cromien and directed by Phil Rosen in the studios of Quebec Productions Corporation at Ste. Hyacinthe, Quebec. World distribution rights were given to the Maynard company, which awarded USA handling to the Motion Picture Sales Corporation.

The film, said to have cost $65,000 to produce, played several engagements in Canada but was withdrawn in Ontario several months ago on the orders of the censor. This was done because of agitation carried on and inspired by the Health League of Canada and its director, Dr. Gordon Bates. Dr. Bates endorsed the film at the time of its first showing, in Montreal, but withdrew his support on the contention that it had been changed later without consulting him. It has been heard unofficially that Maynard and Bates have gotten together and that the film will get a Health League okay, with a percentage of the receipts going to it.

The plaintiff's claim, as given in the endorsement on Writ of Summons, is (a) for a recission of the agreement and for an accounting or in the alternative (b) rectification of the agreement so as to include certain clauses found in standard forms of contracts between producers and distributors, for an accounting and (c) an injunction preventing further exhibition commitments or granting of distribution rights until the trial of this action has been disposed of.

Director Pacted

William Keighley has been signed to a long-term director's contract by Warners.

Griesdorf To Odeon

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ized a banquet in his honor in Vancouver and this was attended by leading trade and community figures. Howard Boothe was named to succeed him in Odeon.

That same month he became general sales manager for PRC, in which N. A. Taylor and associates had purchased a stock interest from H. J. Allen. Griesdorf, a partner, was made vice-president and a director in December.

In November International Film Distributors, a company organized by the Taylor group, assumed PRC's interests in Canada and Griesdorf was named president and general manager. Meanwhile PRC had been reorganized, with the name being dropped in favor of the USA Eagle-Lion one and IFD distributed films made in Hollywood under that emblem, along with UK product from Associated British-Pathe.

H. J. Allen, who had withdrawn from association with the Taylor interests under arrangement, established Cardinal Films, which he currently operates.

Griesdorf, at 40, has had a varied and interesting industry career to date. After leaving the University of Alberta, he became an Independent exhibitor, then switched to distribution with United Artists in Winnipeg and Vancouver. Later he became producer's representative for the James Roosevelt production company, Globe Pictures, Inc., in New York. Following that he returned to United Artists as head of its Los Angeles branch, after which he joined Odeon in British Columbia.

DAVID H. GRIESDORF

Warners Sign Veiller

Warners has signed Anthony Veiller to a producer's contract.

Three Signed For Columbia Musical

Three important spots in Feudin' Rhythm, Columbia action musical starring Eddy Arnold, were filled with the signing of Kirby Grant, Tommy Ivo and Fuzzy Knight. Colbert Clark is producing and Edward Bernds directing, with Gloria Henry in the feminine lead.

Grant, Western leading man and singer who has appeared in a number of Columbia action musicals with the Hoosier Hotshots, will be seen as the producer of the radio show which features Arnold.

Ivo, also a veteran of several Columbia westerns, plays the juvenile lead, and veteran comedian Knight will repeat his famous piano act which convulsed night club audiences 20 years ago.

Barbara Hale Teams With William Holden

Barbara Hale will star opposite William Holden in the comedy, A Mother for May, which S. Sylvan Simon will produce for Columbia. Miss Hale recently completed a co-starring role with Robert Young in And Baby Makes Three.

MOVIE CONSTRUCT'N

(Continued from Page 1)

drive-in and a standard theatre, the scheduling of an opening date for a third, as well as the start of construction on two others and the announcement of plans for a third.

Theatres open include:

Burnaby, BC. H. and M. Phillet's Theatre Agencies' 500-car Lougheed Drive-in. This is the third drive-in for this area—the other two being Steel-Johnson's 1,300-car Oak, recently opened, and National Drive-in Theatres' 500-car Cascade.

Midland, Ont. National Theatre Services 800-seat Roxy. The company also operates the town's only other house, the 760-seat Capitol.

Scheduled to open August 1st is the first house in **Ste. Anne des Monts, Que.** To be named the Carribou, it will seat 225 and is owned by J. C. Beudette's company, Cine Gaspe Limited.

In work are:

Loon Lake Beach, Sask. George Larsen's drive-in. R. C. Longdo opened his new house here last month.

Dawson Creek, BC. Don Rosebourne's theatre. Also under way is Dawson Creek Theatre Company's 600-seat house. In operation is the latter's 380-seat Northland, the only one here.

Being planned is:

Lethbridge, Alta. Famous Players is about ready to call tenders for its 1,000-seat Avenue. Three theatres are located here, two of them being Famous Players' units.

Lucille Ball Cast

Lucille Ball will star in Columbia's Confessions of a Diaper Salesman.

There will be no issue of the CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY for the next two weeks WE'RE ON VACATION!

Film Weekly

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SHORT THROWS

DEATH of Robert Baldwin Gellatly, 57, veteran of more than 40 years in the theatrical industry in Ottawa, came unexpectedly in that city's Civic Hospital recently.

Mr. Baldwin, who was secretary-treasurer of Local 95, IATSE, had been a supervisor for the past seven years with the National Film Board. Previous to joining the NFB he was at the Avalon Theatre. He had started in show business while still at school and was employed at such early theatres as the old Dominion, Kieth's and Bennett's. At various times he had toured with stage shows.

CLOSING of the 305-seat Esquire, only theatre in Southampton, Ontario, has been decided upon by Harold Grasser. So many changes have been ordered by the Theatre Inspection Branch that rather than rebuild Grasser will go out of business. The structure is over 30 years old.

POWER BREAKS have been affecting theatres throughout Ontario. Most recent interruption occurred in Stratford, where two blackouts caused long delays in the programs of the town's two houses.

FIRST DEPARTURE from the rule which bans kids under 15 from movie houses in Quebec is the privilege granted only to the Theatre des Compagnons, Montreal. Children between the age of seven and 16 are allowed in and all programs are approved by theatre officials and the General Film Council. Adults, to enter, must be accompanied by a child.

TRADE PAPER, Variety, reports from New York that J. J. Fitzgibbons of Famous Players and two of his bosses, Barney Balaban and Adolph Zukor, got together with George Weltner, Paramount foreign chief, and John Davis, head of Odeon Theatres throughout the world. The story said "it's understood that the Par toppers may divert some of the Hollywood films slated for the FP-Canadian circuit, a Par subsid, to Rank's Odeon chain of Canada." Paper says that the meeting was "marked by cordiality" but some think an international squeeze play was in the offing.

The Variety article says that the Hon. J. Earl Lawson, KC, suffering from glandular fever for months now, might be well enough to return to his post by autumn.

SCENE AT SIGNING OF BRITISH LION-CANADIAN DEAL

This photograph was taken in London following completion of a distribution deal for Canada between British Lion Film Corporation and Eagle-Lion Films of Canada.

From left to right: O. R. Hanson, president of Pioneer Films Limited, who is Canadian representative for London Films; Sir Arthur W. Jarratt, deputy chairman and managing director of British Lion Film Corporation; Anna Neagle, the English star whose films are among those arranged for; Mrs. O. R. Hanson, who accompanied her husband to Britain; and Herbert Wilcox, producer-director of the Anna Neagle films. The contract calls for 19 films, among which will be several from Sir Alexander Korda.

OUPCHER QUEBEC SALES REP FOR UA

Joseph Oupcher, who had been with 20th Century-Fox for 15 years as branch manager in Marseilles and Paris, is now Quebec sales representative for United Artists, Charles Chaplin announces.

Over a year ago he came to this country and settled in Vancouver, where he conducted his own business. Recently he gave this up to join UA's Montreal office and Mrs. Oupcher and their two children are now settled in that city.

Chaplin described him as 41 years old, as having an exceptionally pleasing personality and speaking remarkably good English considering the comparatively short time he has been in Canada.

"He is an excellent addition to the motion picture industry in this country," said Charlie, "and I am sure that he will gain the confidence of exhibitors throughout the Quebec territory."

SEVEN JUNE CONSTRUCTION AWARDS

Seven construction awards for the alteration or erection of theatres in Canada were made during the month of June. These totalled $400,000.

Ontario led with two amounting to $175,000. Next came BC with two valued at $110,000, then Quebec with one worth $75,000, location of which is Montreal. Alberta and Saskatchewan had one each, the former for $60,000 and the latter for $10,000.

SAFETY FILM GAINING IN USA

One-sixth of the total number of release prints now in circulation in the USA are on the new Eastman Safety Film, known technically as High Acetyl Film 5302, and by September 1st it is expected that the proportion will have risen to one-fourth. While this figure is much higher than was anticipated a few months ago when the safety stock was introduced, the use of the film has become so popular that the only limiting factor is the backlog of prints already made on old-type stock.

Comparatively little difficulty was experienced in changing over to the acetate base, although handling, casing and splicing are different. It was estimated that almost a year would elapse before the new film would be in use in Canada, but with the increasing quantity being made it will be a much shorter time. The National Film Board has already released one short printed on the safety film and this is being checked for durability, etc.

Should safety stock come into general use, authorities believe it may herald a new day in theatre safety. It might easily mean the end of the Quebec province ban on children under 16 attending theatres, with adults or alone, brought on by a disastrous fire in the Laurier Palace Theatre in Montreal in January, 1926, in which a large number of children were killed in a holiday-time disaster. The ban officially denies children entrance to theatres for "security" reasons, but it was a direct result of the blaze.

New Legit House For Montreal

Montreal will have a new 1,500-seat legitimate theatre in September, 1950 — the first house of its kind built privately in Canada for over 40 years, showmen say. They also point out that no such structure has been erected in New York for over 20 years. G. W. McGregor of New York, who built the Craig Theatre, now the Adelphi, there in 1927, and his USA associates will provide all the capital.

McGregor has planned the theatre, which will stand on Guy Street, since 1937. Its stage will be 70 feet deep and 85 feet wide and it will be able to stage Metropolitan Opera attractions, large ballets, etc. The extra demand for tickets will be met by offering two-week engagements.

There will be two large garage floors below the theatre and an elevator will run from them into the theatre. The theatre will share a site with an apartment hotel, in front of which will be a marquee 238 feet long, and theatregoers may stand here out of the rain while waiting for taxis or their cars. Pedestrian patrons may enter the theatre through the hotel.

The Metropolitan Opera Company will play a two-week season before going to Philadelphia in 1951, while during the summer a high-class English stock company will carry on for 14 weeks.

The theatre will be air-conditioned and is expected to set new standards in the legitimate field when finished.

Get Feminine Leads

Ruth Roman and Virginia Mayo will have the feminine leads opposite Milton Berle in Warners' Always Leave Them Laughing.

U-I Borrows Star

Universal-International has borrowed Marjorie Main from MGM for a sequel to Ma and Pa Kettle, titled Ma and Pa Kettle in New York. Percy Kilbride will again be Pa Kettle.

Jennifer Jones Wed To David Selznick

Jennifer Jones, screen star, and David O. Selznick, film producer, were married aboard a yacht off Genoa, Italy, last week. Later a second ceremony was performed at the Genoa City Hall.

Ernest J. Stroud, the Yacht's British captain, performed the sea marriage, while Dr. Paolo Lucarelli, Genoa's head of vital statistics, read the civil ceremony. Witnesses at both were Mr. and Mrs. Leland Hayward and Mr. and Mrs. Louis Jourdan.

MANITOBA EXHIBS

(Continued from Page 1)

lective bargaining, Harold Bishop on public relations, Bob Hurwitz on amusement taxes, and Eddie Newman on the bulletin service.

The secretary gave a summary of the fight against daylight saving time, which may end if the public votes against it in the fall referendum in Winnipeg and other places. The meeting passed another resolution against it and this was directed to officials of communities using manipulated time.

Another important report was that of the committee appointed to study the new Minimum Wages Regulations. The committee (Beach, H. and R. D. Hurwitz, and Harold Bishop) found the classification of statutory holidays as overtime periods unsatisfactory and this point of view was placed before the Minister of Labor by Beach. Revision was requested in a brief and no decision has been handed down yet.

It was noted that Premier Garson had been impressed with the Association's position on the amusement tax and had reduced it through Order-in-Council since the last meeting.

Others elected as officers and directors were Richard Miles, first vice-president; Dave Rothstein, second vice-president; R. D. Hurwitz, treasurer; B. K. Beach, secretary; resident directors — H. A. Morton, E. A. Zorn, I. Triller, B. Sommers and H. Prygrocki; non-resident directors — Sam Pearlman, Dauphin, P. J. Lowe, Cartwright, and Mrs. M. Hay, McGregor.

The constitution was amended to permit the election of a second vice-president. The election of Mrs. M. Hay marks the first time a member of the feminine sex has been on the executive.

The nominating committee for the coming year consists of H. A. Morton, I. Triller and H. A. Bishop, with R. D. Hurwitz, past president, acting as chairman.

The meeting was followed in the evening by a banquet, at which many distinguished figures were guests, among them Chief Justice E. K. Williams, KC; Hon. W. C. Williams, Provincial Treasurer, representing the Premier, who was unable to attend; Mayor Garnet Coulter of Winnipeg; Mayor George McLean of St. Boniface; Mayor W. Gordon of Selkirk; and Hon. C. E. Greenlay, Minister of Labor. The Chief Inspector of Theatres, the Fire Chief and many others interested in the theatre industry were also among the guests who heard W. P. Fillmore, KC, deliver an address on civil rights which was tinged with wit. Harry Gray thanked the speaker.

Tom Pacey provided a fine floor show and Harold Bishop took care of the hotel arrangements.

Odeon, seeking art exhibits for its Carlton Street gallery, found it had been wandering afield unnecessarily. This week you'll see the work of three talented members of its art department on its walls. They are Murray Stewart, Lyle Glover and Gwen Braund.

Reminds me of the man who travelled all over the world looking for gold and finally found it in his own back yard.

Paul Duval, who handles Odeon's art interests, may ask all Odeon employees to show their work and after that personnel of the industry.

It's a boy, their second, at the Don Summervilles. He's the youngest member of the popular Summerville clan headed by ex-controller and MP Billy Summerville, Sr. Don manages the Prince of Wales Theatre . . . **Congrats** are also due to Felix Lazarus, Warner-Pathe Canadian Newsreel cameraman. The baby, Susan Esther, was born in LI, NY . . . **They call him** J. Arthur Silverstone since that London-New York report, reprinted here, about 20th-Fox buying into Odeon Theatres in this country.

"A theatrical magazine reports that many contortionists are unemployed and destitute," comments the Kitchener Record. "One would think they would know how to make ends meet, but it seems they don't know which way to turn."

This being my last column before vacation, I won't be able to comment immediately after the Variety baseball game about the great job done on ticket handling by those two guys with superhuman endurance, Billy Summerville, Jr. and Ernie Rawley. Then there is that swell stint on the program by Jimmy Nairn and the prize effort of Jimmy Cameron in picking up prizes. Fellows like Larry Graburn, Bert Wilkes, Sam Wacker, Sam Glasier, Al Harvey, Don Summerville, Bert Brown, Johnny Poole, Harvey Kathron and Bill Richardson of Dufferin, helped in one way or another, as did many others.

If you are wondering about the annual Film Weekly golf tournament, it may be held in September but by the Variety Club. Tents all through America have an annual tournament and two would be too many. Tom Daley and his committee will look into things and we'll let you know the score.

There should be a Popcorns Anonymous for guys like me who can't take the stuff and can't leave it alone . . . **City scene:** An aged Chinese reading a comic book . . . **To me, Medicine's** greatest failure is its inability to do something worthwhile about sinus trouble. The sufferer doesn't know whether he's on foot or horseback when it's bothering him.

I hear stories about a theatre to be constructed on Spadina, near College . . . **There has been** a quiet checkup of stage equipment in one of the best of the old vaudeville houses, now a movie . . . **Leon Leonidoff** is sharing the billing with Olsen & Johnson for their CNE show, which they ought to call "Corn of the Realm."

In Riverdale Zoo, among a number of usual-type turtles, there is one painted red. These words are on his shell: "First Div—1940." Likely a military mascot during the big tiff. What tales of strife and adventure he must tell his stay-at-home companions on winter nights! They, who have known naught but the waters of their native Ontario and their common prison, must listen enchanted to every word of the daring one's experiences while serving King and Country in other lands.

Some interesting visitors were in town recently. Harry Hurwitz of Winnipeg spent some time gabbing with his fellow-barkers at the Variety Club. And there I met the Haskell Masters entertaining the Arthur Steeles of Jacksonville, Florida. He's an exhibitor. The Steeles were heading for Dryden, where they intended to try for our type of fish. Also here for a quick visit were Mr. and Mrs. George Griffiths of Australia, where the gentleman is a high executive of Hoyt's circuit. Travelling with their son and daughter, they have been looking this continent over for two months now and from here went toward Banff, from where they go to Vancouver, then sail for home. Which reminds me — isn't it time one of the endless number of Waterman brothers of Aussieland showed up?

82 WB SHORTS

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tion in New York, during which he discussed the product for the coming year with Norman Moray, president of Warner Pathe News and short subjects sales manager.

Series and titles in the forthcoming short subjects include: Eight "Exclusive" two-reel Specials in color by Technicolor—Pony Express Days, March on America, Scouts West, Stage Kids, Killers of the Swamp, Winter Wonderland, Jungle Terror and Give Me Liberty.

Ten Sports Parade shorts in color by Technicolor—The Little Archer, Kings of the Rockies, Turtle Racing, Let's Go Boating, Alpine Champions, This Sporting World, That's Just Bully, Riviera Sports, Fun in the Sun and Sportsmen's Paradise.

Blue Ribbon Cartoons (re-releases) will include 13 offerings in color by Technicolors—Tom Thumb in Trouble, Farm Frolics, The Hep Cat, Toy Trouble, Inki and the Lion, Tick Tock Tuckered, My Favorite Duck, The Sheepish Wolf, Double Chaser, 5th Column House, Booby Hatched, Trap Happy Porky and Lost and Foundling.

Six two-reel black and white featurettes (new and reprints)—Pigskin Passes, The Grass Is Always Greener, Just for Fun, Vaudeville Days, Calling All Girls and Oklahoma Outlaws.

Six black and white Warner Novelties: Animal Antics, Sitz Marks the Spot, Fads and Fashions, Hands Tell the Story, Hit Him Again and Do You Remember.

Eight black and white Melody Master Band (re-releases)—Ozzie Nelson and Band, Cliff Edwards and His Buckaroos, California Band and Glee Club, Forty Boys and a Song, Leo Reisman and His Band, Play Girls, Emil Coleman and His Band and Matty Malneck and His Band.

Six Joe McDoakes single reel comedies—So You Want to Learn Golf, So You Want to Be a Hero, So You Want to Be a Fireman, So You Want to Learn to Fish, So You Want to Be a Cop and So You Want to Get it Wholesale.

There will be 26 new Warner Bros. cartoons in the Merrie Melody and Looney Tunes series in color.

'Last Year's Snow'

Columbia has bought Don Tracy's Last Year's Snow.

Position Wanted

Young, aggressive theatre manager would like position. Now at liberty. Married, no children. Willing to go anywhere. Can supply references.

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CANADIAN FILM WEEKLY
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IT LOOKS LIKE A

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PITTSBURGH – **"ONE OF YEAR'S BEST"** —*Press*
ATLANTA – **"WILL KNOCK HOME RUNS"** —*Journal*
ST. LOUIS – **"HILARIOUS"** —*Globe Democrat*

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Canadian Film Weekly
VOICE OF THE CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

Vol. 14, No. 30 | REVIEWS FROM FILM DAILY, NEW YORK | $2.00 Per Annum

Africa Screams

with Abbott & Costello, Frank Buck, Clyde Beatty.

United Artists 79 Mins.

GOOD JOB. FINE CONTRIBUTION TO THE NATION'S SCREEN GAYETY. PLENTY GAGGED UP YARN. SHOULD SATISFY EVERY DEMAND BY THE AUDIENCE. TEAM IN FINE FETTLE.

All the inherent possibilities imaginable have been ably worked over for laughs in this latest contribution to the nation's screen gayety.

It's a good job and being a comedy — a form which has been on the rare side of late — the demand should be great. It is very likely that audiences desire to be entertained via laughter rather than be exposed to the grim dramatic fare that has been the regulation diet of late.

Not only do you have Abbott and Costello to work with, there is also Frank Buck, Clyde Beatty, Max and Buddy Baer, Joe Besser and Shemp Howard, all contributing to the comic uproar.

No situation or gag has been ignored. The resultant laughter comes easily and very frequently. The team is in fine fettle.

Plot takes off in a department store where A & C are selling books. Hillary Brooke comes round seeking a map in an-out-of-print book about Africa. Costello can draw it from memory. She invites him to her place that night and promises to make it monetarily worth while.

When the boys get there they are wised up to the situation. It seems the resultant diamond find is worth much more than Miss Brooke hints.

First thing you know they are in Africa and the complete book is read from encounters with lions, etc., to a session with cannibals. From his travail Costello emerges triumphant due to the palsy walsy attitude of a gorilla that took a fancy to him. Back in the states he is a magnate. Abbott runs his private elevator. The gorilla is his partner. Charles Barton directed.

CAST: Bud Abbott, Lou Costello, Hillary Brooke, Max Baer, Buddy Baer, Clyde Beatty, Frank Buck, Shemp Howard, Joe Besser.

CREDITS: A Huntington Hartford Production; Producer, Edward Nassour; Director, Charles Barton; Screenplay, Earl Baldwin; Photography, Charles Van Enger.

DIRECTION: Good. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Orloff To Script

Arthur Orloff has been signed by Columbia to script his own original, Beauty on Parade.

Edward, My Son

with Spencer Tracy, Deborah Kerr, Ian Hunter.

MGM 112 Mins.

UNUSUAL DRAMA OF FILIAL LOVE WHICH LEADS TO TRAGEDY. FAMOUS PLAY IS AN EXPERTLY DIRECTED FILM BY GEORGE CUKOR.

An extraordinary depiction of the strange lengths to which a father will go in his love for his son is here set before the audience as a firm story of subtle moments, cruelly dissecting the male parent and his aim to procure always the best of all possible for his offspring, savagely stamping down any and all, including the boy's mother, if they got in his way.

In the title role Spencer Tracy manages the proper nuances as he plays "Lord Boult." Deborah Kerr as the boy's mother, wife to Tracy, gives the impression that she honestly applied herself to the role.

It must be said that one never sees "Edward." There is constant reference to him as he passes from birthday to birthday, is almost expelled from an exclusive school, grows into manhood and falls into the pattern that his father's affection fated him to follow since he was spoiled and pampered, financed and forgiven, every year of his life until his death flying for the RAF.

In attempting to straighten out her son Miss Kerr takes him to France. Meanwhile Tracy's secretary, Leueen McGrath, becomes his mistress. Miss Kerr has been checking on Tracy's movements in London. A divorce is indicated. Abruptly Tracy cuts his affair with Miss McGrath who later is a suicide. He goes to France, viciously twists events to prevent a scandalous divorce in order to save "Edward." Ultimately Miss Kerr takes to drink and a fateful series of events follows leading to the death of the boy. Before his demise he had fathered a son out of wedlock.

Facing prison for his part in an arson plot many years before his climb to the top, Tracy, turning full face to the audience, vows he is not giving up the search for the boy.

CAST: Spencer Tracy, Deborah Kerr, Ian Hunter, James Donald, Leueen McGrath, Mervyn Johns, Felix Aylmer.

CREDITS: Producer, Edwin C. Knopf; Director, George Cukor; Screenplay, Donald Ogden Stewart; From the stage play by Robert Morley, Noel Langley.

DIRECTION: Expert. PHOTOGRAPHY: Brilliant.

The Weaker Sex

with Ursula Jeans, Cecil Parker, Joan Hopkins.

Eagle-Lion 89 Mins.

HONEST, ABLY PERFORMED DRAMATIC STUDY OF LIFE IN ENGLAND DURING THE WAR, SHOULD HAVE INTERESTING BOXOFFICE REACTION AS A WOMAN'S FILM.

The screen adaptation of the successful London stage play known a few years back as No Medals fashioned into script terms by Esther McCracken and Paul Soskin evolves an honest dramatic study depicting much humanity and feeling as it deals out an impressively performed picture of life in England from D-Day on to the election of the Labor Government and the new austerities.

It is primarily a woman's story that has as its basic theme the well known phrase, "They also serve who stand and wait." It is from the point of view of a mother that this story takes off, involving her daughters and son, her boarders who are active servicemen and her reaction to the recent war.

Ursula Jeans, one of the better English players, does very well in the featured role. Cecil Parker, as a naval officer, is able and also familiar on this side of the Atlantic.

In Portsmouth, 1944, activity points to the oncoming Operation Overlord. In the widowed Miss Jean's household there is much activity. She manages to engage a maid with Parker's help and try to comfort her busy family. One of her daughters is married to a naval officer who is at sea. When the invasion starts he is reported lost but later turns up, not before there is considerable tension. Her other daughter is in love with a sergeant who goes off to Normandy, survives the conflict, returns to marry the girl. It is peace time again. Parker proposes, is accepted by Miss Jeans. They go to live in London leaving the Portsmouth house to the children.

In time the children and their offspring come to London and a full circle is made but the future is to be faced squarely and Miss Jeans picks up the threads of her former maternal life and duty with confidence in the future.

CAST: Ursula Jeans, Cecil Parker, Joan Hopkins, Derek Bond, Lana Morris.

CREDITS: A Two Cities Film; Director, Ray Baker; Screenplay, Esther McCracken, Paul Soskin; Photography, Erwin Hillier.

DIRECTION: Sound. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Illegal Entry

with Howard Duff, Marta Toren, George Brent.

Empire-Universal 84 Mins.

FAST, FORCEFUL MELODRAMA TURNS LIGHT ON USA IMMIGRATION AGENTS WITH ACCEPTABLE RESULTS. HIGHLY EXPLOITABLE STUFF OF GENERAL APPEAL.

In this melodrama the film makers have finally gotten around to the "T-Men." The picture takes up the exploits of the agents of the Justice Department's Immigration and Naturalization Service with considerable vigor and a good display of action, focussing on material that the exhibitor should find extremely exploitable to the benefit of his finances.

While the film was made with the official blessing of the Government and attempts to convey an impression of authoritativeness, thanks no little to an introduction by USA Attorney General Tom C. Clark, it resolves itself into a formula melodrama which leans astutely upon tested elements to insure interest and build excitement.

It is an acceptable job of its kind. That the story has holes in it does not detract much from the picture as entertainment. If the writers take the easy way out in working out the plot, blame it on the need for the seasoning of romance to widen the production's audience appeal.

The yarn deals with the efforts of George Brent, immigration inspector, to run down a gang smuggling aliens across the Mexican border. To obtain evidence against the villains he enlists Howard Duff, former war pilot, as an undercover man. Duff works himself into the gang, concentrating his attention on Marta Toren, who is in bondage to the smugglers. He smashes the plot and absolves the gal after a series of perilous adventures.

Taut direction by Frederick de Cordova, a first-rate production by Jules Schermer and earnest acting go far toward giving Illegal Entry boxoffice worth.

CAST: Howard Duff, Marta Toren, George Brent, Gar Moore, Tom Tully, Paul Stewart, Richard Reber, Joseph Vitale.

CREDITS: Producer, Jules Schermer; Director, Frederick de Cordova; Screenplay, Joel Malone; Adaptation, Art Cohn; Story, Ben Bengal, Herbert Kline, Dan Moore; Photography, William Daniels.

DIRECTION: All Right. PHOTOGRAPHY: Good.

Foster To Direct

Norman Foster will direct Columbia's A Mother for May.

Scully Principles For Marketing

A revival of four basic principles in the marketing of motion pictures was emphasized by W. A. Scully, vice-president and general sales manager of Universal Pictures, in an address given recently at Universal-International's District Sales Managers Meetings at the Hotel Waldorf-Astoria, NY. A. W. Perry, president and general manager of Empire-Universal Films Limited, which distributes U-I product in Canada, was present.

Scully stated these principles as follows:

1. More conversation about how pictures can be put over and less conversation about terms. The original success of this business was created by an enthusiasm to get people into the theatres rather than by emphasizing how much the exhibitor has to pay for the picture.

2. A keen analysis of all companies product in relation to community entertainment pattern which would bring back the good oldtime idea of discovering naturals for particular communities.

3. Rejuvenation of the traditional point of view that there is something more to our business than cold economics and that a picture can only be made attractive to the public if opinions about its boxoffice are reserved until after the picture has a chance to play.

4. A realization that the continued good health of this business depends on all branches again uniting in the common cause of talking the business up rather than talking it down.

5. Heed the rule of democracy that it works best from the bottom up. When it works well at the community level it will function smoothly at the top.

6. Remember that change and experiment are the foods on which democracy thrives. But don't renounce a proven good for a glib promise.

7. Remember that the bargain-counter days for democracy are over, and that our democracy is on display before a questioning world. Each of us is its custodian.

Jeanne Crain Cast

Jeanne Crain's next starring picture at 20th-Fox will be Cheaper by the Dozen.

Clifton Webb's Next

Clifton Webb's next in the Belvedere series at Fox will be Belvedere's Book of the Month.

RKO Buys Original

RKO has purchased Roy Hamilton's original screen story, The Man He Found. Herman Schlom will produce.

UA Celebrates 30th

(Continued from Page 1)

the development of the industry, the exhibitor will still ask: "What are you going to do for me now?" And Charles Chaplin, general manager for the Dominion, will enumerate his pictures and answer: "Plenty." Doug Rosen, George Heiber and the rest of the branch managers will echo that claim to the exhibitors in their territories. And mean it.

For instance, Champion, the film based on the classic Ring Lardner story of the same name, is repeating at Loew's, Toronto, the boxoffice triumph it enjoyed in Montreal. It made a front-rank star of Kirk Douglas, whose effort in the film brought him a Warner contract, and won tremendous acclaim for its producer, Stanley Kramer. Champion has brought the critic and exhibitor together in their opinion of it, each praising it from standpoints widely apart.

The same phenomenal success at the boxoffice and on the critics' scorecard is being enjoyed by Kramer's second film, Home of the Brave, in its American engagements and this is sure to be the case in Canada. It is a film that the patron will talk about for days. Even in Canada the response of the USA press and public is known to many, so great has it been.

Another business-boosting UA film is Outpost in Morocco, which stars George Raft and features Akim Tamiroff and Marie Windsor. In the same boxoffice class is Africa Screams, called the funniest of the Abbott & Costello comedies to date.

A film which is much talked-about in the trade and awaited by the public is Black Magic, which stars Orson Welles and Nancy Guild. This is of spectacle proportions, for it has magnitude of production as well as romance, action and suspense, according to UA.

On the list is The Great Dan Patch, story of the greatest trotter in racing history, which is told in that sentimental fashion so enchanting to movie patrons. It is a heart-warming simple story which has appeal for all.

Soon to be released are a quartet of Edward Small features: Indian Scout, with George Montgomery and Ellen Drew; Twilight, with Laraine Day, Dane Clark and Franchot Tone; Red Light, with George Raft and Virginia Mayo; and Gun Crazy.

Films which began their circulation earlier and are still going strong are: Red River, one of the greatest westerns of all time, starring John Wayne, Montgomery Clift and Joanne Dru; Too Late For Tears, with Lizabeth Scott and Dan Duryea, Impact, with Brian Donlevy, Ella Raines and Helen Walker; Crooked Way, starring John Payne, Ellen Drew and Sonny Tufts; and Cover Up, with William Bendix, Dennis O'Keefe and Barbara Britton.

United Artists, with these films, retains its leadership in the distribution of Independent productions.

Signs With 20th-Fox

Maxwell Shane has signed a producer-director-writer contract with 20th Century-Fox.

Johnston Opposed To German Film Quotas

Proposal for establishment of film quotas for Western Germany by the Joint Export and Import Agency was vigorously opposed by Eric Johnston, president of the Motion Picture Export Association, in a letter to Dean Acheson, USA Secretary of State.

Johnston stated that restrictions on free exchange of films has proven "uniformly detrimental" and cited Great Britain as the "unhappy victim of its own restrictive policy." In contrast he states that Italy, where there are no quotas, is experiencing a boom in motion-picture art and the industry is expanding and growing.

MOVIE PATRONS

(Continued from Page 1)

the Memo's story and her own reactions to it.

"The fact remains that everyone has their own particular tastes in screen fare and what is top-ranking entertainment to one fan spells plain boredom to another. That is why a film critic should consider the type of audience that will see a movie he is reviewing. It may not appeal to him, but it will hold appeal for someone else," the Free Press critic wrote. She didn't particularly like westerns but she knew many adults who did.

"While the slide-rule, finger-on-the-pulse analysis boys are deciding that only the 14-year-old gum chewer goes to the movies, 'Henry V' is becoming a national topic of conversation and pictures like 'Crossfire,' 'Gentleman's Agreement' and 'Command Decision' are going down on the records as popular entertainment," Movie Memo stated.

Critics, hammering away for better pictures, are in some measure responsible for wider use of so-called arty films and product formerly considered unsuited for any but specialized audiences. Movie Memo said. Also distributors and exhibitors who had devised ways of interesting the general public in them were to be thanked.

Indian Censors Hard To Please

During January and February, 1949, the Bombay Board of Film Censors examined 85 feature films, 46 from the United States and 39 Indian pictures; 54 newsreels, 31 from the United Kingdom and 23 Indian films; and 58 short subjects, 32 from the United States, 15 Indian, five British and six Russian. Deletions were ordered from 28 United States features and 22 Indian features. Cuts from United States features mainly involved drinking scenes, scenes of lengthy passionate kissing, dancing scenes that expose too much of the female form, and scenes showing the technique of crime.

The Madras Board of Film Censors examined five Indian features, one British short, and one Indian short during February 1949. Deletions were ordered from four of the five Indian features. Scenes considered objectionable by the Board involved excessive love-making, brutality, and vulgar dancing.

A press note of May 23rd, 1949, stated that the Bihar Government had banned the exhibition of three films in the province, notwithstanding the fact that the films had already been passed for exhibition by the Bombay Board of Film Censors. According to the Indian press, the Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting stated that plans were under consideration for a Central Board of Film Censors, to review films for all of India. He stated that the Government is aware of the difficulties and inconvenience caused film producers because of the varying applications of the censorship code by different provincial governments.

'The Flying Fish'

The Flying Fish, a story based on the USA Navy's guided missile program, has been scheduled by Columbia as a starring vehicle for Glenn Ford. S. Sylvan Simon will produce.

Leo M. Devaney Wins RKO Depinet Drive

Leo M. Devaney, RKO Canadian general manager, was named first among district managers in the company's 1949 Ned Depinet Drive and was presented with the "President's Prize." Announcement was made by Robert Mochrie, vice-president and general sales manager, who presided and handed Devaney a handsomely engraved gold desk set.

RKO executives from Canada and USA were present.

Mochrie termed the drive "one of the most successful in the history of the company."

M-G-M STUDIOS
Culver City, California

EXTRA

M-G-M's PROSPERITY PLAN HAS A "LOT" BEHIND IT! JOIN!

As The Hollywood Reporter says: "Things are really jumping at M-G-M" and Film Bulletin observes: "M-G-M's backlog of pictures is one of the strongest in the company's long and successful history. It was no idle boast that the studio would build up a total of 67 pictures this year." Showmen may well be proud of our great Studio organization, as is the entire Friendly Company Family throughout the world.

UP AND COMING!

"LITTLE WOMEN" (*Technicolor*)
June Allyson • Peter Lawford • Margaret O'Brien
Elizabeth Taylor • Janet Leigh • Rossano Brazzi • Mary Astor

"TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALL GAME" (*Technicolor*)
Frank Sinatra • Esther Williams • Gene Kelly • Betty Garrett

"THE BARKLEYS OF BROADWAY" (*Technicolor*)
Fred Astaire • Ginger Rogers • Oscar Levant

"THE GREAT SINNER"
Gregory Peck • Ava Gardner • Melvyn Douglas • Walter Huston
Ethel Barrymore • Frank Morgan • Agnes Moorehead

"THE STRATTON STORY"
James Stewart • June Allyson • Frank Morgan
Agnes Moorehead • Bill Williams

"THE SECRET GARDEN"
Margaret O'Brien • Herbert Marshall • Dean Stockwell

"EDWARD, MY SON"
Spencer Tracy • Deborah Kerr

"NEPTUNE'S DAUGHTER (*Technicolor*)
Esther Williams • Red Skelton • Ricardo Montalban
Betty Garrett • Keenan Wynn • Xavier Cugat

"IN THE GOOD OLD SUMMERTIME" (*Technicolor*)
Judy Garland • Van Johnson
S. Z. 'Cuddles' Sakall • Spring Byington

"BORDER INCIDENT"
Ricardo Montalban • George Murphy

"ANY NUMBER CAN PLAY"
Clark Gable • Alexis Smith • Wendell Corey • Audrey Totter

"MADAME BOVARY"
Jennifer Jones • James Mason • Van Heflin • Louis Jourdan

"BATTLEGROUND"
Van Johnson • John Hodiak • Ricardo Montalban
George Murphy • Marshall Thompson

"THE FORSYTE SAGA" (*Technicolor*)
Errol Flynn • Greer Garson • Walter Pidgeon • Robert Young
Janet Leigh

"CONSPIRATOR"
Robert Taylor • Elizabeth Taylor

"SCENE OF THE CRIME"
Van Johnson • Gloria DeHaven • Arlene Dahl • Tom Drake

"THAT MIDNIGHT KISS" (*Technicolor*)
Kathryn Grayson • Jose Iturbi
Ethel Barrymore • Mario Lanza • Keenan Wynn

"THE RED DANUBE"
Walter Pidgeon • Peter Lawford • Angela Lansbury • Janet Leigh
Ethel Barrymore • Louis Calhern • Francis L. Sullivan

"MALAYA"
Spencer Tracy • James Stewart • Valentina Cortesa
Sydney Greenstreet • John Hodiak • Lionel Barrymore

"BODIES AND SOULS"
Glenn Ford • Janet Leigh • Charles Coburn • Gloria DeHaven

"KEY TO THE CITY"
Clark Gable • Loretta Young

"ANNIE GET YOUR GUN" (*Technicolor*)
Big M-G-M All Star Cast

"SIDE STREET"
Farley Granger • Cathy O'Donnell • James Craig • Paul Kelly

"ON THE TOWN" (*Technicolor*)
Gene Kelly • Frank Sinatra • Betty Garrett • Ann Miller
Jules Munshin • Vera-Ellen

The Biggest Picture of All Time Is In Preparation: "QUO VADIS"